

Charred Body of Lt. Bobbitt And Wrecked Plane Found After Search of 11 Days

Body Laid To Rest In Arlington National Cemetery As
Planes Of Fellow Pilots Drone Overhead
In Tribute Of Their Esteem

FULL MILITARY HONORS ACCORDED HIS REMAINS

Plane Crashed Into Tree Nearly To Top Of Mountain;
Death Came Instantly In Crash—Body
And Plane Badly Burned

In the presence of an honor guard of fellow Army pilots from Selfridge Field the body of Lieutenant E. H. Bobbitt, Jr., was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery on Saturday with the full military honors accorded to our soldier dead. Eight planes piloted by his former companions droned overhead in a final tribute as Taps was sounded over the grave.

The body of the popular Hot Springs youth and his wrecked Army plane was found late Wednesday afternoon on Pool's Knob about 20 miles south of Elkins by Carl Reeper and Rearley Simmons of Elkins who had gone out into the wilderness in the continued search that had started on Christmas Day when Lieutenant Bobbitt failed to reach Hot Springs for his intended reunion with his family.

The crash occurred almost at the crest of the ridge at an altitude of nearly 4,000 feet indicating that the plane had been bog-bound and was making a desperate effort to lift his plane over the challenging heights of Cheat Mountain. The top of a tall tree near the point of wreckage had been cut off as with a knife and the plane had plunged into the base of a tree probably at a speed of nearly 100 miles an hour. Investigation showed that Lieutenant had been killed instantly. The usual opinion apparently followed immediately touching the plane and clearing the body of its pilot.

The group turned in the snow and the day being passed plane that it is concluded investigation that the wreckage would have been discovered from the air long the searching efforts of woodsmen who were hunting with great care in the wilderness with their eyes on the plane of Lieutenant Bobbitt. The plane in which Lieutenant Bobbitt was a passenger

planes had sought for eleven days. It was found not over twenty yards from the point where Reeper and Simmons had halted for lunch entirely unaware of its presence until they resumed the search.

The woodsmen reported their finding to Sergeant Moore of the West Virginia State Police at Elkins late Wednesday afternoon. Sergeant Moore, who had been conducting the search in that section of the country immediately communicated with the father of the young pilot in Hot Springs. Mr. Bobbitt and Mr. Charles Loving left immediately, and accompanied by about 60 men from the region, made the late journey into the mountains to get the body. Army officials from Washington went along to make an official investigation of the crash and arrange for the salvage of the plane.

On Friday the body was brought to Hot Springs and prepared for burial. Funeral services were held at the Presbyterian Church on Friday afternoon with hundreds of friends of Lieutenant Bobbitt in attendance. The Reverend George W. Oldham officiated at the services.

At the request of high officials of the Army Air Service, Arlington National Cemetery was selected as the final resting place of the young Army pilot.

The funeral party left Hot Springs on Friday night with the casket and the military service was held at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning in Arlington Cemetery. Among those accompanying the party and brother of Lieutenant Bobbitt to Washington were Edward Bonner, Charles Loving, J. H. Ballou, E. H. Greenwald, J. H. Tucker, Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Rogers, Peter Kasper and other friends.

Major William H. Miller met the party at Washington and

Lieutenant E. H. Bobbitt, Jr.



Lieutenant E. H. Bobbitt, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bobbitt, of Hot Springs, who met his death as his plane crashed into one of the towering peaks in the Cheat Mountains of West Virginia. The youthful flyer was flying from Selfridge Field, Mich., to spend the holidays with his parents

when he crashed on Christmas Day, while flying in a snow storm. The ship caught fire when it crashed. Only after eleven days of intensive search was the charred remains of Lieut. Bobbitt, still in the cockpit of the burned plane discovered. Both army planes and ground searchers took part in the hunt.

attended the services in the National Cemetery. About 30 fellow pilots from Selfridge Field flew to Washington for the tribute to their brother pilot.

Lieutenant Bobbitt is survived by his parents Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bobbitt, of Hot Springs, and one brother, Paul. He had a wide circle of friends throughout Virginia and especially in Hot Springs and Covington. He had attended the Covington Public schools and later Valley High School when the family came to Hot Springs to reside. He also matricu-

lated at Greenbrier Military School and Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

Two years ago Lieutenant Bobbitt went to Kelly Field for his first training for the Air Service. After completing the course there he was assigned to Selfridge Field participated in the Army air maneuvers last summer, acquitting himself splendidly.

Lieutenant Bobbitt's last visit to Hot Springs was during the Thanksgiving Holiday season when he made the air journey from Selfridge Field to here.

Thanksgiving dinner with his family. It was during a vain effort to duplicate this flight on Christmas Day that the tragedy which has stirred the entire community occurred.

Lieutenant Bobbitt was 24 years old.

Stockholders Hold Annual Meeting Tuesday, Jan. 12

Fay Ingalls To Succeed C. S. Andersen On Board Of Directors

NO CHANGE OF OFFICERS

Bank Reports Good Business For The Year Just Past

The stockholders and directors of the Bath County National Bank held their annual meeting in the directors room of the institution Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock.

All of the officers and directors were present and the regular routine business was transacted.

Following the stockholders meeting the Board of Directors of the institution met. Fay Ingalls, president of the Virginia Hot Springs Company, was elected to fill the vacancy on the board caused by the recent death of C. S. Andersen.

The sound business judgment and executive ability of Mr. Ingalls will prove a great asset to the institution—and will play an important part in its future development.

Aside from the addition of the new director, no changes in the personnel was made.

The officers for the coming year, remain as follows: T. W. Jordan, President; W. M. Talbott, Vice President; C. C. Phillips, Cashier; V. P. Ellinger.

The board of directors is composed of the following: T. W. Jordan, C. C. Phillips, W. Howard McClintic, A. W. Cameron, H. A. Cavendish, Fay Ingalls, E. E. Payne, Geo. A. Torrence, W. M. Talbott, L. C. Alphin, M. O'Farrell.

The institution reports 1931 as having been a good year.

Royal Arch Masons of Warm Springs Hold Celebration

Saturday night October 24 the Warm Springs Royal Arch Chapter, No. 53, had a special called meeting to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the granting of its charter.

There were thirty nine Royal Arch Masons present including four past district deputy grand high priests. William Rule, of Clifton Forge; C. I. Smith, of Covington; and Orvis E. Durham and Ernest E. Payne of Warm Springs.

Letters were read from Most Excellent W. L. Davis, of Chatham, the present grand high priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia, also from most Excellent past high priest Sam Tate Sterrett, of Staunton, and the present district deputy grand high priest and the thirteenth district right excellent Dan Wilson, of Clifton Forge, expressing their regrets at not being able to be present.

A history of the early life of the chapter was given by Orvis E. Dunham and the chapter paid its respects to the three charter members who were present, Robert C. Wilkinson, J. R. Criser and Ernest E. Payne, who was the first high priest and who has served the chapter as secretary for the last fifteen years.

Very interesting talks were given by a number of the companions, including J. R. Criser, who told of many interesting events connected with its founding; W. Rule of Clifton Forge who brought greetings from Clifton Forge; C. I. Smith who was present twenty-five years ago and assisted in its founding; Companion E. R. Rogers who supervises the Boys' Home near Covington, gave a very inspiring talk on Masonry in general and the Royal Arch Degree in particular.

After the chapter was closed a very enjoyable social hour was spent and refreshments were served at which a birthday cake commemorating the Anniversary was the center of attraction.



THE LAST OF THE "MEN IN GRAY"—Confederate veterans from Lee Camp Soldiers Home, clad in their beloved blue-gray, listen to praise of their fallen comrades and an indictment of war at the Memorial Day exercises at St. Andrew's Church, where they received an ovation from the throng of spectators. They are (left to right): J. J. Hall, John M. Marker, John Canby, John L. Brooke and W. R. Thomas.

OF THEIR OWNERS... BY THE... CHURCH, where they received an ovation from the throng of spectators. They are (left to right): J. J. Hall, John M. Marker, John Canby, John L. Brooke and W. R. Thomas.

Helmintoller Store Near Hot Springs Razed by Flames

Conflagration Thought to Be
Of Incendiary
Origin
4/2/33

The store building occupied by Mr. P. C. Helmintoller, at Crowdertown, near Hot Springs, burned to the ground, and all the stock and merchandise was completely destroyed in an early morning conflagration, Monday. 1/30/33

The fire was discovered about five o'clock by the owner who was sleeping in an apartment over the store room. He was awakened by the crackling of burning wood and the pungent smoke-filled air.

Mr. Helmintoller ran to his home nearby and awakened his family. Ralph Helmintoller, his son, turned in the alarm summoning the Hot Springs fire department; but by the time the firemen and trucks arrived the flames had gained such headway that it was impossible to save the structure.

A shelter and smoke house located near the store were also consumed by the fire.

Mr. Helmintoller, who has been in ill health for some time, was almost prostrated by smoke fumes before awakening and was attended by Dr. Geo. A. Torrence.

The origin of the fire is undertermined, but is thought to have been incendiary, as no fire had been built in the storeroom, where the fire started, since Saturday night. Further impetus is added to the incendiary theory, by Mr. Helmintoller who reported that a five-gallon can of kerosene, which he noticed as he was leaving the burning building, had disappeared when further investigations was made. One theory advanced is that the building was fired by robbers in order to cover shortages in the stock which would have been disclosed when the store opened for business.

It is stated that the loss is partially covered by insurance.

HOT SPRINGS REBEKAH LODGE

Hot Springs Rebekah Lodge No. 64 celebrated its ninth anniversary at the regular meeting held Monday, February, 20.

After the routine business was concluded the Noble Grand, Sally Roadarmer turned the meeting over to the following sisters (most of whom having been charter members when the lodge was instituted January 15th, 1924) Marie Leithead the first Noble Grand, Annabel Loving, Mary Gum, Adella Dunham and Maude Layman, who gave interesting talks, readings and articles pertaining to the history of the lodge.

The efficient secretary, Maud Layman, has served in that capacity ever since the formation of the lodge with the exception of one year when she served as vice grand and Noble Grand.

After the Lodge was closed the members gathered around the tables and enjoyed the delicious refreshments including the beautiful birthday cake which was baked by the Grand Warden Adella S. Dunham and decorated with the Rebekah colors.

Who was it that went over Horseshoe Falls (Noagara) in a great ball in 1928?

"ANXIOUS."

Jean A. Laussier, of Springfield, Massachusetts, July 4, 1928, went over the Horseshoe Falls in a 758-pound rubber ball. Laussier started his trip from a point on Cayuga Island, three miles up the river and traveled the distance, including the tdrop, in fifty minutes. The ball, manufactured from his own design, was red. It had been stored in a barn near the river's edge while provincial police searched for it, in hope of preventing the voyage. Laussier wore only a blue and white bathing suit in risking his life. He prepared for the trip in view of only a few friends. The ball was rolled to the river and towed by a rowboat several hundred feet out, where it was cast adrift.

Laussier was in a semi-conscious condition at the end of the journey.

Message on Stone May Solve Mystery of 'Lost Colony'

ATLANTA (AP)—The mystery of the "Lost Colony" of Roanoke Island—a problem which has baffled historians more than 300 years—may be cleared up by the message on a stone now being investigated at Emory University, Dr. Haywood J. Pearce Jr. said yesterday.

While reserving judgment as to the authenticity of the inscription, Dr. Pearce said he and his colleagues had reached a tentative agreement as to the translation of the Elizabethan characters on the stone.

The history professor said the announcement was made to still "false reports" and in the hope additional evidence might be brought to light.

The stone, described as "a rough piece of vein quartz weighing 21 pounds," was brought to Emory last November by a motorist, who said he stumbled across it while walking along the banks of the Chowan River, some 50 miles from the original site of the Roanoke colony.

Inscription Is Quoted

One side of the stone bears these words:

"Ananias Dare &
Virginia Went Hence
Unto Heaven 1591."

Above this inscription is a crude cross. Dr. Pearce said the cross led the finder to believe he had stumbled on a grave marker. This was incorrect, he said, as on the same side and at the bottom of the stone are inscribed these words:

"Any Englishman Shew
John White Govr Via."

On the reverse and rougher side of the stone are seventeen lines, the substance of which, freely translated by Dr. Pearce and his colleagues, is as follows:

"Father, soon after you went to England we came hither. Only misery and war for two years. Above half dead ere two years more from sickness, 24 surviving. A savage with message of ship came to us. He reported that after small space of time the savages, afraid of revenge, had run away from the island. We believe

it was not you. Soon after this the savages, feigning that the spirits were angry, suddenly murdered all save seven of us. My child and Ananias too were slain with much misery. We buried all about four miles east of this river upon a small hill. Names are all written there upon a rock. To any savage who will show this unto you and show you hither we promise to give great plenty presents.

"E. W. D."

Historian Comments

"E. W. D." are supposedly the initials of Eleanor White Dare, daughter of John White, who was sent out to Virginia in 1587 by Sir Walter Raleigh.

"If Eleanor Dare was the sender of this message," said Dr. Pearce, "the child referred to was Virginia Dare, the first English child born in America. Ananias Dare, the husband of Eleanor and the father of Virginia, was one of Governor White's 12 'assistants.' Virginia Dare was born August 18, 1587.

"Soon after the colony settled on Roanoke Island, White went back to England to obtain supplies. The coming of the Spanish Armada and other troubles delayed his return until 1591, when the only traces he could find of his colony were a plundered camp site and the letters 'Croatoan' carved on a tree.

"Historians have usually assumed that the colonists, more than a hundred in number, went to the Croatoans, a neighboring tribe of friendly Indians on an island of the same name in the Cape Hatteras country. The message on this stone would indicate, rather, that after four years spent in the region where the stone had been left, all but seven of the 24 surviving colonists were massacred by the Indians.

"This bears out the report made years later to the Jamestown colonists that the Indians murdered all except seven of the colonists on Roanoke Island. Captain John Smith testifies to this report in his "true relation" as does the secretary of the Jamestown colony, William Strachey, in his writings."

Authenticity Uncertain

The quartz is the hardest natural stone occurring in any quantity through the Piedmont plateau region, said James G. Lester, associate professor of geology at Emory. He said carving on a rock of this type would be slow to deteriorate under any weather conditions.

When the stone was brought to Emory last November, it had already been gone over with a nail, a steel brush, an indelible pencil and a carbon pencil in an effort to make the inscription more legible, Dr. Pearce said. This has added to the difficulty of determining the authenticity of the message.

The finder of the stone, who asked that his identity be withheld, agreed to leave it in the

custody of Emory until members of the faculty have had ample time for further investigation, said Dr. Pearce.

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The actual wording of inscription on reverse side, with bars representing a conjectural division by translators into sentences:

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Salvage with mesage of shipp unto
us/ Smal
space of time they affrite of re-
venge rann
al awaye/ We bleeve yt nott yov/
Soone after
ye salvages faine spirts angrie/
Svddione
murther al save seaven/ Mine
childe &
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The stone, described as "a rough piece of vein quartz weighing 31 pounds," was brought to Emory last November by a motorist, who said he stumbled across it while walking along the banks of the Chowan River, some 50 miles from the original site of the Roanoke colony.

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"Soon after the colony settled on Roanoke Island, White went back to England to obtain supplies. The coming of the Spanish Armada and other troubles delayed his return until 1591, when the only traces he could find of his colony were a plundered camp site and the letters 'Croatoan' carved on a tree.

"Historians have usually assumed that the colonists, more than a hundred in number, went to the Croatoans, a neighboring tribe of friendly Indians on an island of the same name in the Cape Hatteras country. The message on this stone would indicate, rather, that after four years spent in the region where the stone had been left, all but seven of the 24 surviving colonists were massacred by the Indians.

"This bears out the report made years later to the Jamestown colonists that the Indians murdered all except seven of the colonists on Roanoke Island. Captain John Smith testifies to this report in his "true relation" as does the secretary of the Jamestown colony, William Strachey, in his writings."

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The Confederate Colonels

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—“Old Dominion Colonelcies,” reported in Tuesday’s Dispatch, brings vividly to my mind some of the many personal recollections told at Confederate reunions.

In my opinion, every informed person will verify the fact that in no other military organization will be, or has been found, such a large number of volunteer college alumni, university masters of arts, theological students, planters and lawyers cheerfully taking places assigned to them as privates, staff aides or couriers, as was the case in 1861, when the proud and sensitive sons of Dixie rushed to the defense of their country against an invading foe.

No “appeasement” offers were made, no conference or round-table discussions checked the restless momentum of these illustrious troops rushing through the frost-chilled waters of Cedar Creek on that memorable October 19th anniversary, driving Sheridan’s left in headlong rout over his right.

Vision, if you can, the unflinching light of high resolve that closed the gaps in the front line, as up Gettysburg heights they marched, “gentlemen unafraid.”

There were no flashlights when they made that daring plunge in the darkness and captured Fort Steadman and its flanking lines.

A couple of flood lights prolonging that quick-fading twilight in the Wilderness on May 6th would have saved brave and brilliant John W. Daniel, afterwards Virginia’s noted senator, then an aid on General Early’s staff, from the near fatal wound in his thigh, caused by a bullet from some Confederate soldier’s gun fired in the darkness toward Sedgwick’s posi-

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near fatal wound in his thigh, caused by a bullet from some Confederate soldier's gun fired in the darkness toward Sedgwick's position, this soldier not knowing that the whole of Sedgwick's corps had "gone with the wind" before Gordon's Georgians. It was also told "as hearsay" that as General Grant galloped over to General Meade's headquarters for first-line dispatches he met one of General Seymour's (then Gordon's prisoner) staff, running.

"What in—! are you running for?" roared Grant.

Half saluting, the panic-stricken Yank shouted, "Because, General, I can't fly!"

General Julian S. Carr, a Confederate soldier in the same division as my father, delighted in this incident:

An old farmer, wealthy but uneducated, living near Appomattox, offered some of Lee's veterans food and small wages to clear up his large acreage. So many came to work he divided them into squads according to their army rank.

The parson made a call. Asking, "Who are those men working over there?"

"Them is privates, sir, of Lee's army."

"Well, how do they work?"

"Very fine, sir; first-rate workers."

"Who are those in the second group?"

"Them is lieutenants and captains, and they works fairly well, but not as good workers as the privates."

"I see you have a third squad; who are they?"

"Them is colonels."

"Well, what about the colonels? How do they work?"

"Now, parson, you'll never hear me say one word ag'in ary man who fit in the Southern army, but I ain't a-gwine to hire no generals."

W. W. FINLEY,
Charlottesville.

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Officers Nab Huge Still and 'Shiner

3/31/38

Sheriff F. G. Thompson of Bath county, H. B. Hook and T. J. Young, Federal prohibition agents, and O. B. Smith of the state ABC enforcement department, captured one man and a 500-gallon still on Big Back Creek, this county, Wednesday morning. At least two other men at the still site escaped.

The officers located the still several days before and had kept the place under surveillance in order to nab the moonshiners while actually engaged in the illicit operation. Concealing themselves in the vicinity of the still early Wednesday morning, the officers lay in wait for the operators to arrive.

It is not stated, but the officers presumably fell asleep, for when they awakened two men were at the still making preparations to begin the run.

One of the men, Perry Tingler, 21, of Jordan Mines, set off after wood, and walked directly into the midst of the officers

directly into the hands of the officers, who placed him under arrest and cautioned him to remain silent. Officer Hook stealthily stalked the man who was engaged in washing up the still, but just as he was getting close, a lookout at the head of the hollow spied the officer and gave the alarm. Both men escaped. Tingler is in the Warm Springs jail awaiting trial.

Sheriff Thompson said the still was one of the most complete he had ever seen. A 500-gallon steel gasoline tank was used for the boiler with two 50 gal steel drums for doublers. An automobile radiator was used for the worm-cooled by water piped into the cooler from a small stream nearby.

Two thousand gallons of sugar bran mash were contained in the eight 250-gallon fermenters—ready to begin run. Thirty-one five-gallon cans were on hand to receive the finished product.

The still was located a bare two hundred yards from the main road. The officers confiscated a quantity of tools at the site and destroyed the still and mash.

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APPOMATTOX 73 YEARS AGO—These Appomattox scenes were photographed in April, 1865, when Lee surrendered there to Grant. Above is the old McLean House, in which General Lee signed terms of the surrender. Below is Appomattox Court-house, where the Southern commander turned over his sword to General Grant. Both buildings, with others in the courthouse group, will be restored by the National Park Service.—Brady Photos From National Park Service File.

Lee's Surrender Marked the End of the Civil War

Lee's Surrender Marked Today; All Land for Park Acquired

Today is the 73d anniversary of Lee's surrender at Appomattox—a day marked by acquisition of the last piece of Appomattox property necessary to make a 1,000-acre national park of the historic grounds.

Today's anniversary sees Appomattox ready for restoration work by the National Park Service which will reconstruct the McLean House, the old jail, the tavern and the courthouse in the Appomattox group buildings. Acquisition of the entire property and buildings marks the end of a 10-year struggle to preserve and restore the historic landmark where Lee surrendered to Grant April 9, 1865, and ended the War Between the States.

Thomas F. Gray recently signed an option which gave the Government the last piece of land which completes the 1,000-acre park-to-be, and was the last of many local property owners who have deeded over their land, often at a sacrifice, to make possible the national park.

Efforts to achieve was begun 10 years ago by the Lions Club and Chamber of Commerce of Lynchburg. United States Representative Harry St. George Tucker and Senator Claude H. Swanson, who

secured passage of a bill creating a commission to plan the park. Early plans were for a monument, but opposition caused sponsors to abandon this idea, and later the land was acquired through the Resettlement Administration, when the Appomattox Historical Park Association was formed with Colonel Joel W. Flood as president.

The Park Service estimates the new park will draw about 10,000 tourists a year to Appomattox.